

Do you wanna dance? by Multi_Fandom_Mouse_Rat

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Characters: Dustin Henderson, Eleven | Jane Hopper, Lucas Sinclair, Maxine "Max" Mayfield, Mike Wheeler, Stacey Albright, Will Byers, Will Byers' Snow Ball Dancing Partner

Relationships: Eleven | Jane Hopper/Mike Wheeler, Will Byers & Will Byers' Snow Ball Dancing Partner, Will Byers/Mike Wheeler

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Summary:

The girl Will dances with noticed something about him that even he didn't quite know. And it turns out the two aren't so different.

Do you wanna dance?

Author's Note:

Since the girl Will danced with didn't seem to have a name- or a personality for that matter I just picked a random one

William Byers is many things, an avid party goer is not one of them. That said, having a near death experience- no scratch that, *multiple* near death experiences (along with a recently removed parasitic virus from another dimension), well, it sort've puts things into perspective. How many Snow Balls are there gonna be? Not to mention it wouldn't hurt to get away from mom for a while, you can't blame her at all but the constant worrying feels like it might be rubbing off on him more so than usual.

And hey, maybe it could've been cool! Having fun, being a kid and dancing with his friends.. with Mike. But that was the night Will would soon notice the beginning of a theme, his party becoming much more interested in girls.

It didn't help that one of the firsttracks was a corny slow dance. Bleh. He, Dustin and Mike with a pinch of amusement watched as Lucas(rather clumsily) asked Max for a dance. Which even he can admit was slightly endearing.

Will knew Eleven would show sooner or later- meaning Mike would most definitely dance with her. That was okay though, awkwardly standing around with him and Dustin until El showed wasn't so bad. But that was before-

"Hey, Zombie boy!"

Janet Michel immediately interrupted. Will didn't know Janet very well, in fact he didn't know her at all they just happened to be in the same class. He couldn't entirely blame her for using his unfortunate nickname- almost everyone did. But still it didn't really endear her too much.

"Do you wanna dance?"

What?! The honest truth was he well- didn't. Stuttering and spluttering, the brunette immediately looked to Mike for help. He wasn't sure what he was hoping for. Maybe for Mike to politely turn the girl down for him? But instead the ravenette gave him *that look* while repeatedly tapping his arm. Like the kind of look that says 'c,mon just say yes already!'. That look was notorious among the Wheelers.

"Uh- I- I mean, yeah! Yeah sure.."

So this is what life has come to, being shipped off by his best friend to dance with some girl he barely knows. She seemed happy though. Janet solidly placed her hands on his shoulders before he hesitantly put his hands on her waist.

Will didn't have much experience with slow dances, which was increasingly obvious by how many times his poor dance partner let out a yelp because of his stepping on her feet.

"S-Sorry!"

"It's alright. You shouldn't expect grace from a zombie after all~"

She was joking, obviously, but he can't say it didn't sting a little. His expression must've shown as much, because hers turned more sympathetic.

"You don't like that nickname one bit, do ya'."

Will not enjoying being the 'disagreeable' one chose not to answer.

"Well I think it's cool. I'm guessing it's better than being called a fag isn't it?"

She wasn't entirely wrong. While the zombie thing was just a little annoying and hurtful, slurs used for gay people always felt personal.

"It- I guess..."

"I know you didn't wanna dance with me. It's cool."

Woah! Where'd that come from? Was Wills poker face really that awful?

"I uh- what? N-no, I do! It's...fine?"

Yikes. He'd meant to say fun. But luckily, she laughed.

"Dude it's okay! For what it's worth I don't really wanna dance with you either."

"Oh. Then why- why did you ask?"

"You seemed the most tolerable out of the boys in this school."

The girl then looked around as if searching for an example but she seemed to pause as her eyes landed on one couple as their lips touched, which Will quickly noticed was El and Mike. Why was that image not..a happy one for Will? His friend finally got that first kiss he wanted.

"Awe bummer- he's the one you actually wanted to dance with, right?"

"What!?"

The boys voice cracked, a little too loud mind you. A few heads turned. He could hear Maxine and Lucas letting out badly suppressed snorts. He put his head down, cheeks flushing with stone cold embarrassment.

"I- He's my friend- I'm not-"

"Hey, hey, hey. Relax zombie boy. I'm not judging, it's okay. I just have a knack for spotting these things."

Clearly Will was unconvinced.

"...look. See that girl over there? With the blue dress?"

Will looked up a little in the direction Janet was gesturing. He nodded once he saw her. He recognised the girl in the blue dress as non-other than Stacey Albright, laughing and drinking punch with her friends.

“Well..she’s the one I actually wanted to dance with.”

Oh. Oooooooh. That made a lot more sense. Will gave her a slightly judgmental look, not because of the gender of Stacey, purely based on what a bully that girl is. Seemingly Janet noted his distaste.

“What can I say? The heart wants what the heart wants~”

“I guess... I mean it’s cool you like her. But you’re still- you’re still wrong about me, I don’t..like..Mike..like that.”

“Oh c’mom, I’ve seen how you look at him. No one else notices cause they’re not like us. They’re not g-“

“I’m not gay.” Will interrupted quickly, his voice hushed to no more than a hiss.

“I’d be surprised if you weren’t.”

“...Why’s that?”

“Well, besides,” Janet proceeded to look him up and down. “all of this.” He wasn’t sure whether to be insulted or not. “You accepted me too quick.”

“Wait. So..so because I’m not a bigot I’m...y’know.”

“No. Because you immediately understood no questions asked. You get how it feels. I can tell.”

Will didn’t know how to respond to that. Will didn’t know how to respond to any of it really, he wasn’t expecting someone to mention one of his biggest insecurities so matter-of-fact. Not tonight at least. He was almost worried this was some kind of trick, that if he..admitted that Janet may have a point she might turn around and tell everyone.

So he opted not to say anything and in turn Janet didn’t either. The slow dance track ended and the two only gave small nods as they went their separate ways.

You have to wonder what would've happened if the conversation had continued, maybe Will could've gotten some kind of- closure. Or at least not feel so confused about his sexuality. Maybe him and Janet could've been friends!

Guess we'll never know.

Author's Note:

I'll probably leave this as a one shot but I mean if y'all want another chapter or two I'll probably write one! I don't really know why I wrote this- I just like the theory that Wills dance partner was actually gay herself